



HR0791

LRB098 19510 MST 54686 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of former
4 State Representative Eugene "Gene" Schlickman, who passed away
5 at the age of 84 on January 23, 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was born on December
7 17, 1929 in Dubuque, Iowa to Leander and Helen (nee Juergens)
8 Schlickman; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was raised in Rockford
10 and worked part-time for his father's Tydee Dydee Diaper
11 Service; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was a graduate of Loras
13 College in Dubuque, Iowa and the Georgetown University Law
14 Center in Washington, D.C.; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was a partner in the
16 Arlington Heights law firm of Burfeind and Schlickman; and

17 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman served for 4 years as
18 the Republican Committeeman from Wheeling Township; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was first elected to

1 the Illinois House of Representatives in the famous "bedsheet
2 ballot" election of 1964 and he served with distinction until
3 1981; and

4 WHEREAS, During his years in the legislature,
5 Representative Schlickman led a number of significant
6 legislative initiatives including prison reform, regional
7 planning and land use, aid to parochial schools, aid to higher
8 education and public mass transit, and assistance for people
9 with disabilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman received Outstanding
11 Legislator awards from the John Howard Association, Rutgers
12 University, groups supporting independent higher education,
13 and the Suburban Township Association for the Disabled; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chicago Today newspaper editorialized his
15 stance in support of the newly-created Regional Transportation
16 Agency "ranks as a profile in courage...and makes us wish there
17 were more people like Schlickman in Springfield"; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman lost only one election
19 in his life and that was the race for the Republican nomination
20 for Congress in 1969, a race which had 8 candidates vying for
21 the nomination to replace Donald Rumfeld; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was a voracious reader
2 and history buff who greeted first-time visitors to his home
3 with the gift of free rein of his floor-to-ceiling library
4 where friends could sift through his prized collection of books
5 and keep any book they wanted from the shelves; and

6 WHEREAS, After Representative Schlickman's retirement from
7 public office, he continued to practice law at an Arlington
8 Heights firm and co-authored "Kerner: The Conflict of
9 Intangible Rights", a well-received and acclaimed biography on
10 former Illinois Governor Otto Kerner, and he co-authored the
11 first biography on Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was preceded in death
13 by his parents, Leander and Helen (Juergens) Schlickman and his
14 brother, John Schlickman; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman is survived by his
16 wife, Sherry (nee O'Connor); his 4 children; his 7
17 step-children; his 14 grandchildren; and his 7
18 great-grandchildren; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was admired by his
20 family and viewed by many of his fellow legislators from both
21 parties as an independent person of integrity and
22 statesmanship; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Schlickman was a dedicated
2 community servant who worked tirelessly on behalf of the people
3 of Arlington Heights and of Illinois's 3rd and 4th House
4 Districts; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we mourn the passing of Representative Eugene "Gene"
8 Schlickman, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
9 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Representative Schlickman as an
13 expression of our deepest sympathy and most sincere
14 appreciation of his service to the State of Illinois and his
15 dedication to the constituents of the House Districts he
16 represented.